

**Question for written answer E-001797/2013
to the Commission
Rule 117
Robert Goebbels (S&D)**

Subject: Conclusions of the HighNoon research project

Following a call for proposals under the Seventh Framework Programme, in 2008 the Commission contributed more than EUR 3.3 million to the HighNoon project, which ended in May 2012. The principal aim of that development project was to assess the impact of Himalayan glaciers retreat and possible changes of the Indian summer monsoon on the spatial and temporal distribution of water resources.

Since the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was forced to admit in 2010 that it had made a mistake by announcing that the total area occupied by Himalayan glaciers had shrunk by 500 000 km² to 100 000 km², what are HighNoon's main conclusions with regard to the possible retreat of those glaciers?

Does the Commission plan to carry out further research on the matter by launching a new call for proposals under the next framework programme?

Lastly, in its answer E-3005/2010 to my question, the Commission declared itself convinced that the funding of HighNoon was 'fully justified' and stated that it would 'consider sound scientific findings for its policies'.

Which specific recommendations from the HighNoon project will be taken up in the Commission's policies?